

## Duo tackles flag football and books



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEHREND INTRAMURALS

Michael Landy (right) and Brad Dolhi (far back) with Fockers teammates pose for the coveted intramural photo. Fockers won the 2003 6 on 6 volleyball championship.

by **Samantha Cibula**  
contributing writer

The Lakers have Shaq and Kobe as their dynamic duo. Behrend has Landy and Dolhi as our dynamic duo.

Seniors Michael Landy, MEBD 07, and Brad Dolhi, MANGT 09, have been dominating the intramural athletics scene since their arrival in Erie four years ago.

"Intramurals have given us something to do," said Landy. "It gives us a way to compete without being on a varsity sport."

Dolhi and Landy were immensely competitive varsity athletes in high school. Dolhi played volleyball at Butler High School, and Landy was involved in volleyball and football at Bethel Park.

Now, the two take their competitive side to the billiards room, Ping-Pong table, badminton court and the Behrend fields.

"I have participated in every intramural sport over the past four years," said Dolhi. "I do hate playing badminton and Ping-Pong, but you do what you have to do to win."

Winning is everything to Dolhi and Landy. They first found their winning ways in the first year they competed.

"Our first year we were with 'Outta the Blue,'" said Landy. "They were a bunch of seniors and we kind of fell into their team. Now, we've taken their spot as champions."

The Fockers, Dolhi and Landy's team, have dominated a variety of intramural sports since the team's inception. Titles include back-to-back volleyball championships for the past two years. They are the reigning softball champions and have two overall point-system championships.

"There is no point in playing if you don't want to win," said Dolhi. "It's all about being competitive and winning."

Dolhi's die-hard intramural efforts and ways of thinking have earned him 2002-2003 Male Intramural Athlete of the Year.

Rob Wittman, coordinator of intramural and recreational programs, knows just how important the two are to the teams, but also to the intramural program itself.

"They are so competitive and it brings out the competitiveness in others," said Wittman.

Landy attributes the loss to TOE in this year's championship flag football game to Dolhi's absence.

"I hate to say, but him not being there had something to do with us losing," said Landy on Dolhi's season-ending ankle injury.

"Dolhi's ankle folded on us, and he had to leave the game," said a teammate. "That's probably a good reason why TOE handed us a devastating loss."

Although Dolhi and Landy are missing the flag football championship title, they say that it is their favorite intramural sport.

The two are an integral part of a very successful intramural program that boasts a participation rate of 63 percent overall for residents and 69 percent for freshmen residents.

"Dolhi and Landy are pieces of the intramural puzzle," said Wittman.

Dolhi and Landy have not only found room to play intramurals but they also have refereed various intramural sports, played noon hoops with staff members and helped recruit students to play.

"Refereeing is a good way to make my intramural fee money back," said Landy.

Dolhi, graduating this fall, will soon be wrapping up his intramural career, leaving his winning legacy and competitive attitude to Landy and the rest of the Fockers.

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## Trading spaces

by **Tina Ianni**  
contributing writer

Students from all over the country have transferred to Behrend for the 2003 academic school year. Whether the student is coming from another Penn State campus or another college all together, they chose to continue their education right here at Behrend.

Being a transfer student can be troublesome. You have to ask yourself, where will I go? What will I do? Will all my credits transfer? Will I make friends just as easily?

According to Transfer Counselor Donna Fuller, there are certain steps you have to take in order to complete the transfer process, and many have done so in this year alone.

Fuller said, "The number of transferring students we've offered admission to for the fall 2003 year was 108."

Many students transferred here from other Penn State campuses. Jason Kramer, a junior here on campus, came from the Penn State Beaver campus. He spent his first two years at Beaver and decided it was time for a change.

Kramer said, "I liked Behrend because it was a smaller campus and everyone is so friendly."

Plenty of nontraditional students have transferred here as well. Howard Franklin, an adult student transferred from West Virginia University, said, "I liked being affiliated with a nationally known school like Penn State University."

Both of these transfer students seem to go through the transfer process quite easily.

"My experience transferring into Penn State Behrend has been very smooth. The staff here has been kind and helpful and has made things as easy as possible for me. My advisor has been assisting me and applying as many credits as possible toward my degree here at Behrend," said Franklin.

Scheduling, housing, and credit conflicts are factors in the transfer process. Fuller says that the program chair evaluates many courses and they decide how each course would fulfill the PSU requirements.

"Scheduling was really easy because I just went on E-lion and did it online, and my credits transferred easily because I was already a Penn State student," said Kramer.

Leaving a school upon which you were accustomed to and entering a fresh environment can be a little scary. Adjustment might take time, but it will happen.

Kramer said, "I think it is really nice here so far, and for being a small campus it has a lot to offer."

"I have found the students and faculty here on campus to be extremely friendly and I would recommend Behrend to anyone who appreciates a big education in a small campus setting," said Franklin of his new surroundings.

If you plan on transferring to another school or Penn State campus, know that you are not alone. Adjustment to life at a new campus is not so bad after all.

## Bocian serves Behrend and his country

by **Dana Vaccaro**  
staff writer

As the graduating seniors of the fall semester are preparing themselves for the future, Mathew Bocian already knows what lies ahead of him in the next year. Bocian will be receiving a degree in communication and media studies this December.

Following graduation, he will not be a journalist or a public relations director; he will, instead, serve America and represent our country, just like thousands of other soldiers, over in Iraq.

Ever since Bocian was 4 years old, he wanted to be in the Army. At the young age of 14, he decided that he wanted to serve America and join the Army. In the fall of 1999, Bocian's dream came true, when he enrolled himself into the Army.

When Bocian came to Behrend, he immediately got involved with the R.O.T.C. After he graduates in December, he will be commissioned as a second lieutenant, meaning he will have to go through an officer basic training course. At the completion of the 22-week course, Bocian will become an officer and no longer be enlisted.

After the officer training, Bocian will get sent to a unit and there he will find out when he will be leaving the states and where he will be located for a one-year tour.

Bocian recalled a period of time when he was in high school sitting around with a couple of his friends who also wanted to enroll in the Army, wondering when it was going to be their time. They knew their grandparents had their time, along with their fathers' and uncles, but they never knew when it would be their turn.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Bocian and his friends, knew their time has come.

He said, "Out of the four of us, two are serving over there right now, one is on his way, and I guess you can say I am the last



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mathew Bocian, a member of ROTC, will graduate in December and then possibly deploy to Iraq where two of his friends already are.

of the group to go over." Even though Bocian and his friends are miles apart, they still keep in touch through e-mail.

He has mixed feelings about going overseas. He is prepared to go over, because he does not have much left here. The majority of his friends are already serving over seas, and one more will be sent out around the same time as Bocian.

However, Bocian said, "It's going to be a challenge, especially being officer for the first time, rather than being someone who is used to being led. I will be the person doing all of the leading."

Bocian has a couple of options he can pursue after serving on his one-year tour overseas. He said, "I could stay in the Army and retire, or I can do 8-12 years, get out and look for a job with the F.B.I."

Bocian would hope to combine his Army experience and communication degree by working for the F.B.I. However, at this point of his life, he is strictly focusing on being an officer.

Outside of the Army and his busy 25-credit school schedule, Bocian is just like any other person. He enjoys fishing, hunting and visiting his hometown of Pittsburgh. He also takes up recreational skydiving, a result of being a qualified air-borne for the Army.

Along with being involved in the R.O.T.C. Bocian has been a teacher's assistant for two and a half years for Dr. Archie Loss. He enjoys being an assistant. He feels it is rewarding and said, "it's nice to know the students look to you to guide them."